

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mayor Bernero, MSU Host Distinguished Environmental Advocate Huey Johnson

Go Green! Go Lansing! Partnership Invites Sustainable Development Expert to Share Ideas with Lansing Area Leaders

(LANSING) – Internationally renowned global environmental champion and sustainable development expert Huey D. Johnson will visit Lansing to lead a **Green Planning Symposium at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, March 19, 2007 at the Lansing Center**. The event is co-hosted by Mayor Virg Bernero as part of his Go Green! Go Lansing! Initiative and the MSU Land Policy Institute.

Nearly 100 Lansing area leaders from business, government, academic and non-profit organizations are expected to attend the event to discuss how environmentally-responsible planning can help secure the future prosperity of the Lansing region. In advance of the Green Planning Symposium, **Mr. Johnson will hold a press conference at 11:30 a.m. at the Lansing Center River Pub, located in the west wing of the building.**

Mr. Johnson will also deliver an address entitled “Going Green: A Strategy for Prosperity” at the **Wharton Center Pasant Theater at 7:30 p.m. Monday evening** as part of the MSU Land Policy Institute’s New Path Distinguished Speaker Series. The event is open to the public and free of charge with parking validated. Due to limited seating, reservations are required and can be made online at <http://web2.canr.msu.edu/landpolicy/registration.cfm>. Additional information is available online at <http://www.landpolicy.msu.edu/newpath/speaker4.html>.

A graduate of Lansing’s Sexton High School, Mr. Johnson is an internationally distinguished environmentalist and is widely recognized as the leading U.S. proponent of green plans. He is highly respected for his pioneering work on land conservation and environmental policy.

Mr. Johnson is the founder and current President of the Resource Renewal Institute. He is also the founder of the Trust for Public Land, Grand Canyon Trust, the Environmental Liaison Center in Nairobi, Defense of Place, and the Aldo Leopold Society. In addition, Johnson was responsible for building The Nature Conservancy in the western United States, serving for eight years as its Western Regional Director and one year as its President.

Mr. Johnson has advised numerous political leaders around the world and given dozens of lectures on the link between a healthy economy and a healthy environment. He is the author of the book *Green Plans: Greenprint for Sustainability* (University of Nebraska Press, 1995), which has been incorporated into the environmental planning curriculum at a number of universities.

During his career, Mr. Johnson has received numerous accolades for his environmental advocacy, including the President's Award for Sustainable Development in 1996. In 2001 he received the prestigious Sasakawa Prize, the annual United Nations environmental award honoring an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the management and protection of the environment.

More information about Mr. Johnson is available from the Resource Renewal Institute website at <http://rri.org>.

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